(a) whether Government propose to mint five-rupee coins and reintroduce two-rupee coins for circulation in the country;

(b) if so, by when a decision in this regard is likely to be taken; and

(c) whether the printing of one-rupee, two-rupee and five-rupee notes will be continued along with the minting of coins of similar denominations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A decision has already been taken to this effect.

(c) Printing of one-rupee, two-rupee and five-rupee notes will be continued along with the minting of coins of similar denominations for the time being.

Duty Drawback on Drugs

2597. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that duty draw back on exports has been allowed even in respect of those drugs where import contents were more than FOB realisation;

(b) if so, what are the details of such instances which came to the notice of his Ministry in the recent past;

(c) what are the names of major drugs on which duty draw back was given by his Ministry during the last three years; and

(d) what was the quantity of each drug exported, CIF value and duty draw back value involved during the last three years, year-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) While fixing the rates of drawback on certain drugs, some cases of negative value addition i.e., where c.i.f. value of imports was more than f.o.b. value of exports came to our notice during September/October, 1989. These cases are under examination.

(c) Some of the drugs which are exported under claim of duty drawback are Erythomycin, Ampicillin Trihydrate Amoxycillin Trihydrate, Chloramphenicol, Ethambutol Hydrochloride, Trimethoprim, Cephalexin monohydrate, Cloxacillin Sodium, Paracetamol, etc.

(d) No such statistics are maintained in respect of individual drugs.

Losses incurred by public sector integrated steel plants

2598. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the accumulated loss incurred by the public sector integrated steel plants as on 31st March, 1990;

(b) whether Government propose to further raise steel prices; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH THE ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) has since wiped off all its accumulated losses. Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) had accumulated upto 31st of March, 1989, losses to the tune of Rs. 475.18 crores. The accounts for the year 1989-90 are yet to be audited and finalised.

(b) and (c) There is no direct Government control on the prices of iron and steel items. Joint Plant Committee (JPC) revises the prices of some items of steel produced by the integrated steel plants from time to time.